

Message Text

SECRET

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21

ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T SEOUL 1608

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA KS

SUBJ: KOREA AT 31ST UNGA: CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 051373 (B) STATE 151194

1. POLCOUNS MET WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND TREATIES BUREAU DIRECTOR CHUNG WU-YOUNG, MARCH 4, TO REVIEW CONTENTS REF A, AND ALSO TO ASCERTAIN ROK VIEWS ON PROPOSED APPROACH TO NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES REQUESTED REF B AND PREVIOUS MESSAGES ON THIS SUBJECT. WITH REGARD CORE MEETING TIMING POLCOUNS MADE CLEAR THAT IF MEETING HAD TO BE POSTPONED WE STRONGLY WISHED IT TO BE NO LATER THAN MID-MARCH.

2. IN RESPONSE, CHUNG IMMEDIATELY TURNED TO QUESTION CORE GROUP MEETING DATE, SAYING THAT JAPANESE EMBASSY HERE HAD ASKED MOFA TO POSTPONE MEETING TO LATE MARCH SINCE SENIOR GAIMUSHO OFFICIALS (HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED DIRGEN UN AFFAIRS OKAWA) WHO WISHED TO ATTEND MEETING WOULD BE OCCUPIED UNTIL THAT TIME. JAPANESE HAVE SPECIFICALLY SUGGESTED MARCH 26-27 AND IN DEFERENCE JAPANESE WISHES ROKS PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH THIS TIMING. ACCORDING CHUNG BOTH CANADA AND U.K. HAVE INDICATED IN NEW YORK THEY ALSO WISH MEETING AT LATTER DATE BECAUSE OF JAPANESE STRONG DESIRE FOR POSTPONEMENT. OTHER THAN PRECLUDING POSSIBILITY MARCH 9-10 DATE, WHICH CHUNG SAID NOW CLEARLY IMPOSSIBLE, CHUNG DID NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY EARLIER MEETING IF WASHINGTON STRONGLY DESIRED IT AND COULD PERSUADE JAPANESE.

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HE DID SAY THAT HE WOULD LIKE IMMEDIATE DEPARTMENT REPLY ON DATE

QUESTION, BY MARCH 5 IF POSSIBLE, SINCE ROKS HAD TO NOTIFY
OTHER CORE MEMBERS OF POSTPONEMENT AND NEW PROPOSED DATES.

3. CHUNG SAID HE WOULD PASS ON TO FONMIN OUR VIEWS REGARDING
ROKG PUBLIC STATEMENT, PARA 2-3 REF A, HE SAID HE HOPED TO HAVE
ANSWER REGARDING OUR PROPOSED APPROACH TO NON-ALIGNED BY MARCH
5.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE IMMEDIATE REPLY DATES FOR CORE MEETING.
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